III. C. C. No. 2 Original Title Sheet

ILLINOIS COMMERCE COMMISSION GAS TARIFF

UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

(This Schedule of Rates cancels ILL. C.C. No. 1 formerly designated as United Cities Gas Company)

Communications Regarding This Tariff
Should be Addressed to:

Thomas R. Blose, Jr., President
United Cities Gas Company Division
810 Crescent Centre Drive
Suite 600
Franklin, TN 37067-6226

Issued by:

Thomas R. Blose, Jr., President

Date Issued: February 17, 2000

Ill. C. C. No. 2 * Original Sheet No. 1

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PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

United Cities Gas Company, a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation, sometimes herein referred to as "Company" is a public utility engaged in the business of distributing and selling natural gas at retail within its authorized service areas in the State of Illinois, and subject to the jurisdiction of the Illinois Commerce Commission.

This tariff, containing replacement rates of United Cities Gas Company, a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation, is filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission in accordance with the Applicable statutes of Illinois and the applicable General Orders of that Commission.

Gas service will be provided to all bona fide applicants for service in accordance with the terms and conditions of Company's service regulations, and at Company's applicable rate schedules, as set forth in this tariff.

A copy of this tariff is available for inspection during business hours at each office of the Company in Illinois.

Rate Zones

The Company serves several communities in Illinois with natural gas purchased from various natural gas pipelines in accordance with separate and individual tariffs approved by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and containing difference price levels. As used in the retail rate schedules of the tariff, rate zone designations are applicable to the communities served by the Company as follows:

- Rate Zone 1 <u>Vandalia, Salem, Kinmundy, Alma, Cowden, Xenia, Iuka, Huey, Altamont, St. Elmo, Brownstown, Beecher City, Fairina, St. Peter and other cities supplied with gas from Natural Gas Pipeline Company of America.</u>
- Rate Zone 2 <u>Harrisburg</u>, <u>Eldorado</u>, <u>Raleigh</u>, and other cities supplied with gas from Texas Eastern Transmission Corporation.
- Rate Zone 3 Metropolis, Joppa, Brookport, Salem, Kinmundy, Alma, Cowden, Xenia, Iuka, Huey and other cities supplied with gas from Trunkline Gas Company, plus Farm Tap customers along the transmission line, and other cities supplied with gas from the Trunkline Gas Company.
- Rate Zone 4 <u>Virden, Girard, Thayer, New Holland, Middletown, Farmersville, Waggoner,</u> plus Farm Tap Customers along the transmission line, and other cities supplied with gas from Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line Company.
- Rate Zone 5 <u>Salem, Kinmundy, Alma, Cowden, Xenia, Huey</u> and other cities supplied with gas from Mississippi River Transmission Corporation.

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RESIDENTIAL GAS SERVICE

Schedule 110: All Zones

Availability

This schedule is available within the Company's service area to any residential or federal housing project customer using gas service primarily for domestic purposes.

Character of Service

Natural gas, with a heating value of approximately 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, supplied through a single delivery point and a single meter, at the delivery pressure of the distribution system in the area.

* Facilities Charge

A monthly facilities charge of \$9.75 is payable regardless of the usage of gas.

* Monthly Rate

Consumption	1
•	31
	404

1 - 30	Ccf	\$.3475
31 -100	Ccf	\$.3100
101 - 300	Ccf	\$.1800
301 - >	Ccf	\$.1500

Payment

Each monthly bill for service is payable on the date of issue. A charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be added to the amount of any residential customer's bill remaining unpaid after 21 days following the date of mailing the bill, and 14 days after the date of mailing a bill for non-residential service. When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) full business days after the due date printed on the bill, the customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

Gas Lights

For all metered gas light services under this tariff, the charge for such service shall be based on actual usage through a metered source at this tariff rate. It shall be within the Company's discretion whether a gas light should be metered, however if the gas light is unmetered, the Company may estimate and determine the appropriate consumption of the light and charge the applicable rate under this rate schedule.

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 4

RESIDENTIAL GAS SERVICE (Continued)

Schedule 110: All Zones

Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment

Bills for service are subject to adjustment for changes in the cost of purchased gas in accordance with Service Regulations filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Service Regulations

Gas service at these schedules will be furnished in accordance with the Company's Service Regulations as filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission, copies of which are available for public reference during business hours at each of the Company's offices.

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February 17, 2000

Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 5

SMALL COMMERCIAL AND SMALL INDUSTRIAL GAS SERVICE

Schedule 120: All Zones

Availability

This schedule is available within the Company's service area to any commercial or industrial customer using less than 135,000 Ccf per year for any purpose at the option of the Company, to the extent gas is available. This schedule is not available to residences, apartment or federal housing projects.

Character of Service

Natural gas, with a heating value of approximately 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, supplied through a single delivery point and a single meter, at the delivery pressure of the distribution system in the area, or at such higher delivery pressure as agreed upon by customer and Company.

* Facilities Charge

A monthly facilities charge of \$20.00 is payable regardless of the usage of gas.

*Monthly Rate

Consumption	1
-------------	---

\$.2100
\$.1500
\$.1400

Payment

Each monthly bill for service is payable on the date of issue. A charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be added to the amount of any residential customer's bill remaining unpaid after 21 days following the date of mailing the bill, and 14 days after the date of mailing a bill for non-residential service. When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) full business days after the due date printed on the bill, the customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

Gas Lights

For all metered gas light services under this tariff, the charge for such service shall be based on actual usage through a metered source at this tariff rate. It shall be within the Company's discretion whether a gas light should be metered, however if the gas light is unmetered the Company may estimate and determine the appropriate consumption of the light and charge the applicable rate under this rate schedule.

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February 17, 2000

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UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF THOSE ENERGY CORPORATION

Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 6

SMALL COMMERCIAL AND SMALL INDUSTRIAL GAS SERVICE (Continued)

Schedule 120: All Zones

Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment

Bills for service are subject to adjustment for changes in the cost of purchased gas in accordance with Service Regulations filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission.

*Transportation Service

Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect to secure their own gas supply for transportation on the Company's distribution system. Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect a full firm or partial standby service. Customers not electing full firm service are subject to interruption to the extend their usage on a daily basis exceeds their elected firm Daily Contract Quantity. Customers electing transportation service shall be billed the rates set forth in this tariff. Customers electing transportation service shall not be subject to the Gas Charge and Refund Adjustment, but shall be billed the TOP Adjustment of the Purchased Gas Adjustment.

Service Regulations

Gas service at these schedules will be furnished in accordance with the Company's Service Regulations as filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission, copies of which are available for public reference during business hours at each of the Company's offices.

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III. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 7

LARGE COMMERCIAL AND LARGE INDUSTRIAL GAS SERVICE

Schedule 130: All Zones

Availability

This schedule is available within the Company's service area to any commercial or industrial customer using at least 135,000 Ccf per year for any purpose at the option of the Company, to the extent gas is available. This schedule is not available to residences, apartment or federal housing projects.

Character of Service

Natural gas, with a heating value of approximately 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, supplied through a single delivery point and a single meter, at the delivery pressure of the distribution system in the area, or at such higher delivery pressure as agreed upon by customer and Company.

*Facilities Charge

A monthly facilities charge of \$25.00 is payable regardless of the usage of gas

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*Monthly Rate

Consumption

n	1	-	5,000	Ccf	\$.1800
	5,001	-	15,000	Ccf	\$.1700
	15,001	_	20,000	Ccf	\$.1400
_	20,001		>	Ccf	\$.1275

Payment

Each monthly bill for service is payable on the date of issue. A charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be added to the amount of any residential customer's bill remaining unpaid after 21 days following the date of mailing the bill, and 14 days after the date of mailing a bill for non-residential service. When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) full business days after the due date printed on the bill, the customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

Gas Lights

For all metered gas light services under this tariff, the charge for such service shall be based on actual usage through a metered source at this tariff rate. It shall be within the Company's discretion whether a gas light should be metered, however if the gas light is unmetered the Company may estimate and determine the appropriate consumption of the light and charge the applicable rate under this rate schedule.

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UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 8

LARGE COMMERCIAL AND LARGE INDUSTRIAL GAS SERVICE (Continued)

Schedule 130: All Zones

Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment

Bills for service are subject to adjustment for changes in the cost of purchased gas in accordance with Service Regulations filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission.

*Transportation Service

Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect to secure their own gas supply for transportation on the Company's distribution system. Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect a full firm or partial standby service. Customers not electing full firm service are subject to interruption to the extent their usage on a daily basis exceeds their elected firm Daily Contract Quantity. Customers electing transportation service shall be billed the rates set forth in this tariff. Customers electing transportation service shall not be subject to the Gas Charge and Refund Adjustment, but shall be billed the TOP Adjustment of the Purchased Gas Adjustment.

Service Regulations

Gas service at these schedules will be furnished in accordance with the Company's Service Regulations as filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission, copies of which are available for public reference during business hours at each of the Company's offices.

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 9

OPTIONAL GAS SERVICE

Schedule 150: All Zones

Availability

To Any commercial or industrial customer using 270,000 Ccf or more per year, or 1,000 Ccf per day during off-peak periods, provided the Customer has and maintains adequate standby facilities and an alternate fuel supply in order that gas deliveries hereunder may be interrupted at any time. This Rate Schedule is available only to those Customers receiving service under Schedule 150 prior to the effective date of the Order in Docket 96-0437.

Deliveries to such customers shall be subject to curtailment at any time. Deliveries to such customers shall be subject to curtailment in whole or in part upon one-half (1/2) hour's notice.

Character of Service

Natural gas, with a heating value of approximately 1,000 Btu per cubic foot, supplied through a single delivery point and a single meter, at the delivery pressure of the distribution system in the area, or at such higher delivery pressure as agreed upon by Customer and Company.

The amount of gas available at any time for delivery under the schedule is that portion of Company's supply which exceeds the existing requirements of Company's firm gas customers at such time.

Facilities Charge

A monthly facilities charge of \$25.00 is payable regardless of the usage of gas.

*Monthly Rate

Consumption

1		25,000	Ccf	\$.1000
25,001	-	50,000	Ccf	\$.0800
50,001	-	100,000	Ccf	\$.0700
100,001	_	>	Ccf	\$.0500

Payment

Each monthly bill for service is payable on the date of issue. A charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be added to the amount of any residential customer's bill remaining unpaid after 21 days following the date of mailing the bill, and 14 days after the date of mailing a bill for non-residential service. When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) business days after the due date printed on the bill, the Customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

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OPTIONAL GAS SERVICE (Continued)

Schedule 150: All Zones

Interruption and Curtailment

Gas deliveries to customers served on this schedule may be interrupted or curtailed at any time whenever, in Company's judgment, such interruption or curtailment is necessary in order for it to continue to supply the gas requirements of its firm customers at such time. The Company will endeavor to notify in advance customers served on this schedule whenever a curtailment or interruption is required, and each customer shall curtail his use of gas to the time and to the extent requested by Company. Interruptions and curtailments may vary from time to time among customers but shall be as equally apportioned as practicable over any period of 12 consecutive months.

Deliveries to customers on this schedule will not be interrupted or curtailed until gas deliveries have been totally interrupted to all customers served on any lower priority interruptible gas service schedule.

Overrun Penalty

Volumes of gas taken at any time in excess of the amount stipulated by the Company in the curtailment notice as being available to Customer shall constitute overrun gas. A penalty of \$2.50 per Ccf of such overrun volumes shall be paid by Customer in addition to all other charges payable hereunder provided; however, Company has the right to waive any portion of the overrun penalty on a non-discriminatory basis for good cause.

Contract

Customers shall contract for service hereunder for a term of not less than one (1) year. Upon the expiration of any contract term, the contract shall be automatically renewed for a period of one (1) year. At any time following the first contract year service may be terminated by either party following at least six (6) months written notice to the other party.

Purchased Gas Cost Adjustment

Bills for service are subject to adjustment for changes in the cost of purchased gas in accordance with Service Regulations filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission.

*Transportation Service

Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect to secure their own gas supply for transportation on the Company's distribution system. Customers served under this Rate Schedule may elect a full firm or partial standby service. Customers not electing full firm service are subject to interruption to the extent their usage on a daily basis exceeds their elected firm Daily Contract Quantity. Customers electing transportation service shall be billed the rates set forth in this tariff. Customers electing transportation service shall not be subject to the Gas Charge and Refund Adjustment, but shall be billed the TOP Adjustment of the Purchased Gas Adjustment.

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 11

OPTIONAL GAS SERVICE (Continued)

Schedule 150: All Zones

Service Regulations

Gas service at these schedules will be furnished in accordance with the Company's Service Regulations as filed with the Illinois Commerce Commission, copies of which are available for public reference during business hours at each of the Company's offices.

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Date Issued: February 17, 2000

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF **NATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION** Original Sheet No. 15 *RESERVED FOR FUTURE USE **(T)**

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 19

CONTRACT SERVICE

Schedule 190: All Zones

Availability:

This service is available to any customer located within such distance of an interstate natural gas pipeline providing gas transportation service that bypass of the Company's gas distribution system is, in the judgment of the Company, economically feasible and practical.

The customer shall enter into a contract with the Company specifying the nature of the service to be supplied, the price to be paid, and such other terms and conditions as are mutually agreeable, provided, however, as a condition of service, the customer will provide to the company affidavits stating the customer's intent to by pass the Company's facilities absent service hereunder, and such other evidence required by the Company to verify the investment required on the part of the customer in order to take gas service directly from an interstate pipeline company.

Contracts:

Contracts entered into hereunder shall be submitted to the Illinois Commerce Commission for informational purposes. Such contracts shall be treated on a proprietary basis.

The maximum term of contract under this rate shall be five (5) years.

Charges:

The charges hereunder shall be the charges contained in the contract between the customer and the Company.

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Date Issued: February 17, 2000

Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 20

NEGOTIATED GAS SERVICE Schedule 191: All Zones

Availability

Gas service under this rate schedule is available at the Company's discretion to permit the Company to meet alternate fuel competition. Service under this rate schedule shall be fully optional.

The intent of this rate schedule is to provide the Company flexibility to sell gas at negotiated rates when the otherwise applicable tariff rates are non-competitive. The Company may offer to any customer who qualifies for this Rider an alternative price for natural gas to be delivered during a specified billing period which:

- does not exceed the price specified in the Company's filed rates, plus PGA charges that would otherwise be applicable to the customer's natural gas service during the specified billing period, and
- b) is not less than the weighted average commodity price per therm, adjusted to reflect system losses, of the Company's gas supply purchased from pipelines and other suppliers during the specified billing period, plus one cent per Ccf.

Facilities Charge

A monthly charge of \$25.00 for each customer.

Monthly Rate

The rates charged under this rate schedule shall be negotiated monthly on a per customer basis. The Company may require supporting documents from the end-user certifying that the cost of available alternate supply is less than the otherwise applicable tariff rate. The ceiling rate shall be the otherwise applicable tariff rate. Any negotiation downward will be solely at the Company's discretion.

Payment

Payment for service hereunder shall be in accordance with the provisions of the service agreement between the Company and end-user. All applicable taxes shall be levied against sales under this rate schedule.

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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 21

*COGENERATION, COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS, PRIME MOVERS, FUEL CELL SERVICE, LARGE TONNAGE AIR CONDITIONING

Schedule 192: All Zones

Purpose

The purpose of providing service under this schedule is to increase utilization of system supplies and system capacity.

*Applicability

This schedule is available to the extent gas supply and delivery capacity is available to commercial and industrial customers, existing or new, for use as a single prime fuel source to generate electrical and thermal energy in order to optimize efficiency. This schedule is also available for compressed natural gas for automobile and truck fleets and fuel cell service and large tonnage air conditioning.

Eligibility

Eligible customers shall include those who are currently connected to the Company's gas main or who will become newly connected. In either case, service will be provided, at the Company's option, through a separate meter.

Character of Service

Natural gas with a heating value of approximately 100,000 Btu per hundred cubic feet, supplied through a single delivery point meter, at the standard equipment utilization pressure, or at such higher delivery pressure as approved by Company.

Facilities Charge

A monthly charge of \$25.00 for each customer.

Customer charge for adjacent connected load will not be duplicated, otherwise the facilities charge will be at the customer's regular schedule charge.

*Monthly Rate

All Consumption, per Ccf \$.0950

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UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 22

*COGENERATION, COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS, PRIME MOVERS, FUEL CELL SERVICE, LARGE TONNAGE AIR CONDITIONING

Schedule 192: All Zones

Payment Payment

Each monthly bill for service is payable on the date of issue. A charge of one and one-half percent (1-1/2%) per month may be added to the amount of any residential customer's bill remaining unpaid after 21 days following the date of mailing the bill, and 14 days after the date of mailing a bill for non-residential service. When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) full business days after the due date printed on the bill, the customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

Contract

Customers shall contract for service hereunder for a term or not less than one (1) year. Upon the expiration of any contract term, the contract shall be automatically renewed for a period of one (1) year. At any time following the first contract year, service may be terminated by either part following at least six (6) months written notice to the other party.

Purchased Gas Adjustment

Bills for service are subject to the cost of purchased gas in accordance with the Purchased Gas Adjustment (PGA) Provisions approved by the Illinois Commerce Commission.

Service Regulations

Gas service at these schedules will be furnished in accordance with the Company's General Rules and Regulations, approved by the Commission, copies which are available for public inspection during regular business hours at each of the Company's offices.

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February 17, 2000

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UNITED CITIES GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF ATMOS ENERGY CORPORATION

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UNITED CITIE ATMOS ENERO	S GAS COMPANY, A DIVISION OF GY CORPORATION	Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 24
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Ill. C. C. No. 2 Original Sheet No. 25

SERVICE REGULATIONS

1. Definitions

Except where the context indicates a different meaning or intent, the following terms, when used herein or in the Company's rate schedules incorporation these Service Regulations, shall have the meanings defined below:

- 1.1 "Company" or "Utility"
 United Cities Gas Company, a Division of Atmos Energy Corporation.
- 1.2 "Customer"
 Any individual, partnership, association, firm, public or private corporation or government agency or institution who has agreed with the Company to pay for gas utility service.
- 1.3 "User"
 A person who receives gas utility service.
- 1.4 "Applicant"
 Any individual, partnership, association, firm, public or private corporation or government agency or institution applying for Company's service at any specific location.
- 1.5 "Gas Service"

The availability of natural gas at the Company's point of delivery to customer irrespective of whether any such gas is actually used.

- (a) Residential Service Gas utility service for household purposes furnished to a dwelling of two units or less, or a federal housing project customer which is billed under a residential rate or gas utility service for household purposes furnished to a dwelling unit or units which is billed under a residential rate and which is registered by a separate meter for each dwelling unit.
- (b) <u>Small Business Service</u> Any Illinois based business which had (50) fifty or less full-time employees in the state.
- (c) <u>Non-Residential Service</u> Gas utility service which is not residential service.
- (d) <u>Master Metered Apartment Building</u> A building of three or more rental dwelling units where any utility service is registered by a single meter for all units.

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SERVICE REGULATIONS (Continued)

1.6 <u>"Point of Delivery"</u>

The point of connection between Company and customer at which the gas supplied leaves the outlet side of Company's meter and enters customer's facilities.

1.7 "Cubic Foot of Gas"

The gas necessary to fill one cubic foot of space at a temperature of 60 degrees Fahrenheit and an absolute pressure of 14.73 pounds per square inch.

1.8 "Mcf", "Ccf", and "Therm"

"Mcf" is 1,000 cubic feet of gas; "Ccf" is 100 cubic feet of gas; as used herein "Therm" means a volume of gas containing a quantity of heat equal to 100,000 Btu.

1.9 "Due Date"

The date printed on the gas utility bill as the last date allowed for payment of a bill prior to the date such bill becomes past due or delinquent, determined as follows by class of service:

- (a) Residential Service The due date printed on the bill will not be less than twenty-one (21) days after the date of mailing the bill.
- (b) Non-Residential Service The due date printed on the bill will not be less than fourteen (14) days after the date of mailing the bill.

When a customer mails any payment for gas service and such payment is received at the Company's office not more than two (2) full business days after the due date printed on the bill, the customer shall be deemed to have made timely payment.

2. Customer Facilities and Responsibility

2.1 The customer shall install and maintain his piping and appliances in the condition required by the insurance and governmental authorities having jurisdiction and in a manner approved by the Company. The customer shall so use his equipment as not to disturb the Company's service to other customers.

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February 17, 2000

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SERVICE REGULATIONS (Continued)

- 2.2 The Company will supply the customer with gas through meters owned by the Company. The Customer shall provide a suitable place for the meter satisfactory to the Company. Meters shall be located as close to the service entrance as practical and shall be located in compliance with Illinois Commerce Commission General Order No. 159, Rule 7 (a). The customer shall see that said meters are protected from damage or accident and will not permit any person other than the agent of the Company, or a person lawfully authorized to do so, to remove, inspect, or tamper with same.
- 2.3 The meter, meter connections, and the service piping from the main to the meter, and any extension thereof, shall belong to the Company and be subject to removal only by the Company regardless of whether any charges for service piping were made to the customer.
- 2.4 The Company's authorized agent shall have access to the customer's premises at all reasonable hours to inspect, read, repair, or remove its meters and other property and to inspect the appliances installed on customer's premises.
- 2.5 In the event of the escape of gas, customer should shut off all gas at the meter, take reasonable precaution to prevent ignition of escaping gas, and shall immediately notify the Company.

3. <u>Applicants for Service</u>

If after a review of its own past service records, the Company finds that an applicant for service has failed to pay for past due utility service for the same class of service furnished to him/her at the same or at another address, the Company may refuse to provide service unless the applicant, at the option of the Company, pays any past due bill and/or provides a deposit pursuant to Rule 5 herein and/or enters into a deferred payment agreement pursuant to Rule 9 herein.

A bill for non-residential service shall not be transferred to a bill for residential service, and vice versa. Service shall not be denied for nonpayment of bills for merchandise or non-utility services.

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SERVICE REGULATIONS (Continued)

The Company's procedure for taking applications for service shall be as defined in Illinois Commerce Commission General Order No. 172, Second Revised, Rule 5.

4. Present Customers

The Company may request a deposit pursuant to Rule 5 herein from a present customer during the first twenty-four months that the customer receives utility service from the Company if the customer, during any twelve month period, pays late four times.

A deposit may be requested from a present non-residential customer after the first twenty-four months that the customer has received utility service if the customer, during any twelve month period ending after the first twenty-four months of service, pays late six times.

The Company may request a deposit from a present customer whose pipes, meters or other service equipment have been tampered with and the customer enjoyed the benefit of the tampering.

If the Company requests a deposit for any of the reasons stated in these rules, such request shall be made within forty-five days after the event giving rise to the request takes place.

Present customers who are indebted to the Company for past due utility service shall have the opportunity to negotiate a deferred payment agreement pursuant to Rule 9 herein to retire the debt.

The Company's procedure for requesting a deposit from a present customer shall be as defined in Illinois Commerce Commission General Order No. 172, Second Revised, Rule 6.

5. <u>Deposits</u>

- 5.1 Applicants for Service Conditions under which the Company may request a deposit from applicants for service are set out in Rules 3 herein.
- 5.2 Present customers Conditions under which the Company may request a deposit from present customers are set out in Rule 4 herein.

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5.3 Amount - The Company will not request a deposit from an applicant for residential service or from a residential customer or an applicant for a small business service or a small business customer in excess of 1/6 of the estimated annual charges for service for the applicant or customer. The Company will not request a deposit from an applicant for non-residential service or from a non-residential customer (except an applicant for small business service or a small business customer) in excess of 1/3 of the amount of the estimated annual charges for service for the applicant or customer.

The Company may request a minimum of 1/3 of the amount of a requested deposit be paid within twelve days after the issue date of the request for deposit. At least two billing periods will be allowed by the Company in which to pay the balance of the deposit. The date by which the entire deposit must be paid must be plainly indicated on the deposit request. The amount of the deposit may be adjusted at the request of the customer, applicant or Company at any time when the character or degree of use of the service materially changes or when it is clearly established that the character or degree of use of the service will materially change in the immediate future.

- 5.4 Refund of Deposits Deposits plus interest shall be automatically refunded after being held for twelve months as follows:
 - (a) if the twelve months during which the deposit was held are within the first twentyfour months that a customer had received utility service, the deposit plus interest shall
 be refunded only so long as the service has not been interrupted for nonpayment or so
 long as the customer has not paid late four times, or so long as the customer's pipes,
 meters or other service equipment have not been tampered with during the time the
 deposit was held which resulted in the customer enjoying the benefit of the tampering;
 - (b) if the twelve months which the deposit was held were subsequent to the first twenty-four months that a customer had received utility service, the deposit plus interest shall be refunded only so long as the service has not been interrupted for nonpayment or so long as the customer has not paid late six times during the past twelve months or so long as the customers pipes, meters, or other service equipment have not been tampered with during the time the deposit was held which resulted in the customer enjoying the benefit of the tampering;

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(c). deposits plus interest need not be refunded until the customer pays any past due bills for utility service.

Deposits plus interest shall be refunded upon the discontinuance of service for more than thirty days less the amount of unpaid bill(s), if any, for the service. A transfer of service from one premise to another within the area served by the utility need not be deemed a discontinuance of service by the Company if the character of service remains the same. When a deposit plus interest is applied to the liquidation of unpaid bills, the Company shall provide the customer with a statement (Cancellation Notice) showing the amount of the deposit, the amount of any accrued interest, the amount of the unpaid bills) liquidated by the deposit plus interest and the balance remaining due either to the customer or the Company.

All deposit refunds shall be by separate check and not by credit to the customer's account except where discontinuance of service is affected.

At the option of the Company, a deposit plus interest may be refunded, in whole or in part, at any time earlier than the times hereinbefore prescribed.

5.5 Interest shall be paid on all deposits held by the Company. The rate of interest will be calculated by the Illinois Commerce Commission in December of each year and will be the rate existing for one year United States treasury bills at the time the calculation is made. The rate will be rounded to the nearest one-half (1/2) of one percent (1%) and such rate shall be paid on all deposits held during all or part of the subsequent year.

At the end of every year of service, if the deposit plus interest is not refunded to the customer, the Company will automatically refund the accrued interest on the deposit by crediting the Customer's account and so stating this credit clearly on the customer's next regular bill.

Records of Deposits - The Company will maintain records of deposits together with interest, which collectively will show all transactions pertaining to each deposit. The Company will provide the applicant or customer with a Certificate of Deposit for any deposit received. The Certificate shall show the customer's name, service address, serial number, type of service, amount of deposit, rate of interest on deposit, date received, Company's name and a statement of the conditions under which the deposit will be refunded to the applicant or customer. Nothing is implied herein to require the Company to accept deposits from third parties on behalf of an applicant or customer.

When a deposit is refunded, the Company will issue a Cancellation Notice carrying the same scrial number as the Certificate of Deposit. When refunds are not deliverable, records will be maintained to show the Company efforts toward locating the applicant or customer and delivering such deposit.

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